

transport; and assisting wild bird conservation and management programs in countries of origin.

Section 114 of the WBCA requires that "the Secretary, in consultation with appropriate representatives of industry, the conservation community, the Secretariat of the Convention, and other national and international bodies shall:

(1) Review opportunities for a voluntary program of labeling exotic birds, certification of exotic bird breeding facilities and retail outlets, and provision of privately organized or funded technical assistance to other nations; and

(2) Report to the Congress the results of this review within 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act".

In accordance with the WBCA, and in an attempt to comply with the intent of Congress that the aforementioned opportunities be reviewed and considered, the Service wishes to initiate a discussion of this topic and invite review and input from the public. By this notice, the Service announces a public meeting to discuss the opportunities for a voluntary program of labeling exotic birds, certification of exotic bird breeding facilities and retail outlets, and technical assistance. This meeting will serve as a working session and the Service will facilitate the discussion of these topics and report to Congress the results of such discussions. Interested members of the public may also submit written comments to the Service on this issue, which should be addressed to the Office of Management Authority [see ADDRESSES, above].

**Author:** This notice was prepared by Rosemarie S. Gnam, Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (703/358-2095; FAX 703/358-2280).

Dated: February 24, 1995.

**Bruce Blanchard,**

*Director.*

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## Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-05-1320-01]

### Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of competitive coal lease sale (Eagle Butte Tract, WYW124783).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in the Eagle Butte Tract described below in Campbell County, WY, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the

Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*).

**DATES:** The lease sale will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 5, 1995. Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 4, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** The lease sale will be held in the Third Floor Conference Room, Wyoming State Office (WSO), 2515 Warren Avenue, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Cashier, WSO, at the address given above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura Steele, Land Law Examiner, or Eugene Jonart, Coal Coordinator, at 307-775-6250.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This coal lease sale is being held in response to an application for a lease by application competitive coal lease sale filed by AMAX Land Company (formerly, Meadowlark Farms, Inc.) of Gillette, WY. The coal resources to be offered consist of all reserves recoverable by surface mining methods in the following described lands located approximately 3 miles north of Gillette, WY:

T. 51 N., R. 72 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming  
Sec. 28: Lot 13 (W2);  
Sec. 33: Lots 1 thru 4, 5 (E2), 6 thru 11,  
12 (E2), and 14 thru 16;  
Sec. 34: Lots 3 thru 6, and 9 thru 16.  
Containing 1,059.175 acres.

The Eagle Butte Tract, located adjacent to the existing Eagle Butte mine, contains the Roland and Smith coal seams both of which are in the Fort Union Formation. The Roland seam averages about 40 ft. thick and the Smith seam averages about 61 ft. thick on the LBA area. The Roland seam is thicker in the LBA area than some adjacent portions of existing leases. This is due to an upper zone of the seam becoming dominantly coal on the LBA, whereas the same zone is an interbedded claystone and coal on the existing leases. Total burden on the LBA averages 217 ft. thick. There is a shaly coal split separating the Smith and Roland seams averaging about 4 ft. thick on the LBA tract. The average in-place stripping ratio (BCY/ton) for the LBA tract is estimated to be 1.99:1.

The tract contains an estimated 188,500,000 tons of in-place coal reserves. However, about 115 acres of the tract are unavailable for mining because of a required buffer for U.S. Highway 14/16. The BLM estimates that this buffer reduces minable reserves to approximately 166,400,000 tons.

The coal rank is subbituminous C. Average as received quality for the Roland seam on the LBA is 8434 BTU/LB., 4.95% ash, and 0.54% sulfur.

Average as received quality for the Smith seam on the LBA tract is 8341 BTU/LB., 4.23% ash, and 0.22% sulfur. This places the coal reserves in the LBA tract just slightly below average in heat content for coal being mined in this portion of the Power River Basin. Other quality parameters compare favorably with coal presently being mined in this area.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. The surface is not held by a qualified surface owner as defined in 43 CFR 3400.0-5.

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid equals the fair market value for the tract. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bid should be sent by "CERTIFIED MAIL—RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED", or be hand-delivered. The Cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. *Bids received after 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 4, 1995, will not be considered.* The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value (FMV). The FMV of the tract will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

If identical high bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

The lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual advance rental of \$3.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, and of a royalty payment to the U.S. of 12½ percent of the value of coal produced by strip or auger mining methods and 8 percent of the value of the coal produced by underground mining methods. The value of the coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 203.250(f).

Bidding instructions for the tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are available from the WSO at the addresses above. Case file documents are available for inspection at the WSO.

**Robert A. Bennett,**

*DSD, Mineral Resources.*

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